

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A method for allowing a user to receive programs desired by said user, said method comprising the steps of:
accepting from said user information pertaining to a program desired to be viewed by said user;
matching by other than said user, said accepted information against a list of known programs currently scheduled to be delivered; and
informing said user as to when said programs will be delivered.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:
allowing said user to receive said programs at the informed time.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said program information is selected from the list including future programs, past programs, past events, program concepts, biographies, actors, travelogues, subject matter, movies, concerts, performers, time frames, sitcoms, sports, affinity programs, historical figures, news events, programs not yet scheduled.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:
upon a non-match condition making said user request available to at least one content provider.
5. (Original) The method of claim 4 further comprising the step of:
delivering programs to said user from said content provider which match said accepted descriptive material.
6. (Original) The method of claim 4 further comprising the step of:
interacting between said at least one content provider and said user to deliver content containing said descriptive material to said user.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:
upon a non-match condition continuing by other than said user to match said accepted information against future lists of programs scheduled to be delivered.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:
upon a non-match condition continuing by other than said user to match said accepted
information against possible future programs not yet scheduled.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:
enabling a recorder at said user's location to record said programs when matched
ones of said programs are delivered to said user.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9 further comprising the step of:
adjusting the timing of said recording in accordance with the location of said user.

11. (Original) The method of claim 9 further comprising the step of:
adjusting the recording time at said user's location in accordance with information
concerning the actual transmission times of programs being recorded.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said matching step includes the
step of:
comparing a program provider's identity against a permission level set by said TV
user.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said matching step includes the
step of:
interacting with said user.

14. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said accepting step includes the
step of:
accepting said program information over a network separate from the network used
to deliver said desired program.

15. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said informing step include, the
step of:
informing said user via an electronic message communicated separate from the
network used to deliver said desired program.

16. – 20. (Canceled)

21. (Original) A method for allowing a TV user to receive programs desired by said user, said method comprising:

recording, under control of said user, requests pertaining to a program desired to be viewed by said user; said desired programs not necessarily currently scheduled, either as stand-alone programs or programs which are part of a series, for availability to said user;

accessing recorded ones of said requests by other than said user;

determining, at least in part independent of control by said user, whether or not a program corresponding to an accessed request is currently scheduled so as to be available for delivery to said user; and

informing said user as to the availability of an accessed request.

22. (Original) The method of claim 21 further comprising:

allowing said user to receive said corresponding programs when said corresponding programs are determined to be available for delivery to said user.

23. (Original) The method of claim 21 wherein said requests pertain to programs selected from the list including: future programs, past programs, past events, program concepts, biographies, actors, travelogues, subject matter, movies, concerts, performers, time frames, sitcoms, sports, affinity programs, historical figures, news events, programs not yet scheduled.

24. (Original) The method of claim 21 further comprising:

upon a determination that there are no currently scheduled programs matching an accessed request, making said user request available to at least one content provider.

25. (Original) The method of claim 24 further comprising:

allowing said user to receive said corresponding programs when said corresponding programs are determined to be available for delivery to said user from at least of said content providers.

26. (Original) The method of claim 25 further comprising:

interacting between said at least one content provider and said user to deliver to said user said corresponding program.

27. (Original) The method of claim 21 further comprising:
upon a determination that there are no currently scheduled programs matching an accessed request, continuing to repeat for a period of time said accessing, determining and informing steps.

28. (Original) The method of claim 27 further comprising:
enabling a recorder at said user's location to record programs when a match is determined with a subsequently scheduled program.

29. (Original) The method of claim 21 wherein said informing step comprises:
enabling a recorder at said user's location to record programs which are determined to be available for delivery to said user.

30. (Original) The method of claim 29 further comprising:
adjusting the timing of said recording in accordance with the location of the user.

31. (Original) The method of claim 29 further comprising:
adjusting the recording time duration in accordance with information concerning the actual transmission times of programs being recorded.

32. – 46. (Canceled)

47. (Currently Amended) A method of adjusting recording ~~recoding~~ time of an entertainment program, said method comprising:
selecting an entertainment program to be communicated to said user's premises, said program having scheduled start and stop times;
establishing a start and stop time in accordance with said scheduled start and stop times for recording said selected program at said user's premises; and
without action taken by said user, adjusting an established stop time of said established recording time to accommodate subsequent changes in program length.

48. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 47 wherein said changes in program length occur after the start time of said program. ~~further comprising:~~
~~without action taken by said user, adjusting the start time of said recording to match changes in the scheduled transmission time of said program.~~

49. (Canceled)

50. (Currently Amended) A method for allowing a user to receive programs desired by said user, said method comprising:

accepting from said user information pertaining to a program desired to be obtained by said user;

matching, by other than said user, said accepted information against programs that become available for delivery to said user; ~~and~~

sending program recording instructions from a program transmission source to equipment at said user's premises, said recording instructions operative for establishing a start and stop transmission time for recording said program when said program is transmitted to said user[.]; and

adjusting said transmission time to said user dependant upon said user's time zone.

51. – 56. (Canceled)

57. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 47 further comprising:
transmitting for recording at said user's premises said selected program in accordance with said established start and stop times.

58. (Canceled)

59. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 50 further comprising:
transmitting for recording on said user's equipment matched ones of said programs in accordance with sent ones of said recording instructions.

60. (New) A method for allowing users to electronically receive programs, said method comprising:

accepting by a program transmission source from requesting users information pertaining to a program desired to be received by at least one of said requesting users; and

scheduling by said accepting program transmission source for electronic delivery to said requesting users a specific program matching said accepted information from said users, said specific program only being scheduled and available for electronic delivery by said transmission source to requesting users based upon accepted ones of said information.

61. (New) The method of claim 60 further comprising:
making available by said transmission source to at least one party other than said transmission source at least some of said accepted information pertaining to programs desired to be viewed by said users; and
determining by each of said other parties whether to provide programs to said transmission source that match said made available information.

62. (New) The method of claim 60 further comprising:
transmitting program recording instructions from said program transmission source to equipment at said users' premises, said recording instructions operable for establishing start and stop times for recording said scheduled ones of said specific programs.

63 (New) The method of claim 60 further comprising:
informing each said user as to the time when said program will be electronically delivered to said user.

64. (New) The method of claim 63 further comprising:
adjusting the electronic delivery time to each said user dependant upon that user's time zone.

65. (New) The method of claim 50 wherein said scheduling further comprises:
interactive communication with at least one of said users to determine if said one user desires said specific program.

66. (New) A method for providing entertainment programs to a user, said entertainment programs provided from a service provider and communicated electronically to requesting ones of said users, said system comprising:
recording user requests for specific information;
matching recorded ones of said requests with entertainment programs scheduled for electronic communication to users served by said provider;
upon a non-match condition, making at least some of said recorded ones of said user requests available to a plurality of entertainment providers;
determining under control of any one of said entertainment providers if said entertainment provider has programs containing specific information that matches a recorded

request from a particular user; and

scheduling a specific program to be delivered to a particular user in response to a determination that an entertainment provider has available for delivery to said user said program containing specific information as requested by said particular user.

67. (New) The method of claim 66 further comprising:

negotiating between said particular user and said last-mentioned entertainment provider to determine whether or not to schedule said specific program.